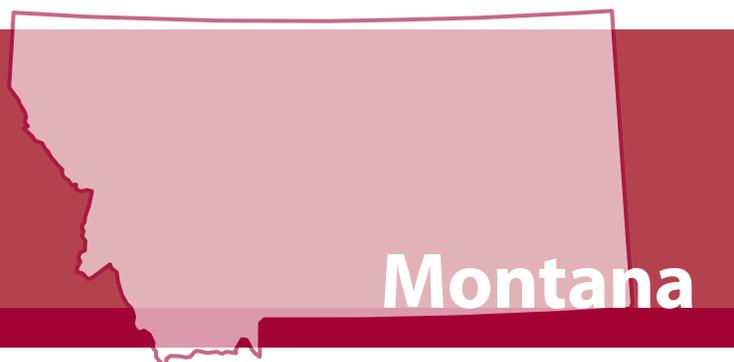
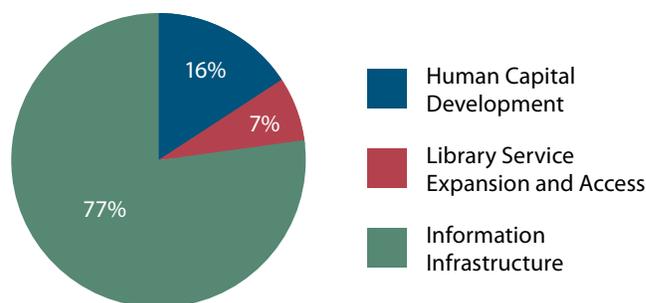


LSTA GRANTS TO STATES PROFILE: MONTANA



Projects by Strategy, FY 2003–2006



This fact sheet provides information about the State Library Administrative Agency, LSTA Grants to States programs by category, expenditures by fiscal year (2003–2006), interview highlights with the chief officer, and the program goals for 2008–2012.

State Library Administrative Agency Information

Agency name	Montana State Library
Agency governance	An independent agency that reports to a board
Population served in 2006	945,428
FY 2006 total expenditures	\$4,145,000
Grants to States allotment total for FY 2003–2006	\$3,598,291
Chief Officer	Darlene Staffeldt, State Librarian
Web site	http://msl.mt.gov

Interview Highlights with the Chief Officer, Darlene Staffeldt

Greatest Program Impact in the Last Five Years:

“LSTA has made statewide projects and demonstrations possible. In the earlier five year period we gave small individual grants to libraries; we do more with statewide projects now. Without LSTA it would not be possible to have the Montana Shared Catalog, e-content projects (both the shared catalog and e-content projects were started with LSTA seed money), or training for programming.”

Delivery of Library Services:

“Libraries are all independent organizations; there are no legal governmental ties to the State Library. There are six federation areas that are geographic. They give us smaller areas to work with and we use them for awareness. We use LSTA funds for the consultant in the two field offices and one in Helena. (There's one consultant for each two federations.)”

Program Data by Fiscal Year, FY 2003–2006

Montana	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	All Years
Total allotment	\$751,325	\$889,652	\$949,157	\$1,008,157	\$3,598,291
Number of projects reported	11	13	14	15	53
Largest project amount	\$1,820,046	\$213,604	\$245,575	\$290,975	
Median project amount	\$30,053	\$32,000	\$22,749	\$20,982	

Challenges in the Coming Five Years:

1. Making sure we get every library involved in resource sharing projects/consortia. They see the benefits once they start, but getting them the first time is hardest.
2. Convincing funders that libraries are essential. Librarians don't traditionally sell themselves well.
3. Keeping libraries, staff, and trustees knowledgeable and up-to date. Every day there's something new, not only technology, but philosophically as well.
4. Getting and keeping librarians in leadership positions. Librarians are poorly paid; they get lower pay than information technicians."

Program Goals for 2008–2012

- Improve quantity and quality of information available by providing libraries with affordable electronic databases and make access to library materials convenient and efficient with self-service capabilities so that the information needs of all Montana residents are met.
- Montana library leaders and librarians need improved skills and knowledge to provide services and programs addressed in the six LSTA priorities. This will be accomplished by providing strong leadership and direction, reliable consultation services, and high-quality training opportunities that are relevant to the priorities of the LSTA legislation.
- Improve and expand existing partnerships and collaborative efforts among libraries and other organizations and demonstrate benefits of cooperation and sharing to achieve expanded library services and access to information for all Montana residents.
- Increase awareness of TBL services through partnerships with libraries and eye care professionals and expand digital audio resources through collaboration with NLS, other states, and increased local digital production to provide special needs patrons with the information they need.

Exemplary Project: Montana State Library

Project title	Training Specialist Project
Library	Montana State Library
LSTA Funds Expended FY06	\$43,562
Total Cost FY06	\$50,027
Program Category	Information Infrastructure , Library Service Expansion and Access

The Training Specialist Project is intended to fill a recognized gap in Montana State Library's continuing education program by providing a training professional to focus on delivering library skills training on both a statewide and local basis. The specialist designs and delivers training to Montana librarians in the use of electronic resources, including products and tools that are available through statewide licenses such as OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) FirstSearch and the Gale and Ebsco periodical databases. The specialist also locates and evaluates existing library education opportunities offered by other organizations for inclusion on a continuing education resource page for the State Library Web site. During the report period, the training specialist traveled nearly 14,000 miles, visiting 41 public libraries and four school libraries. A total of 352 participants received face-to-face training and 79 participants received online training. The training specialist produced more than 20 training aids, including PowerPoint presentations, handouts, training outlines, user guides, and other instructional materials.